

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **A. Background of the Study**

Every human being cannot avoid the changes that happen in their surrounding. Everybody certainly has a problem in their lives. No one lives in the world without having a problem. Generally, a kind of problem can motivate a person to do something better, so they feel challenged. But, there are many existing problems that can make uncomfortable and anxious. Sometimes, people are capable of solving the problem rationally by facing the problem squarely. The object of a human being in this world is to attain to the perfection of humanity, and therefore it is necessary that man should go through what we call the struggle of life.

Struggle is one of the real effort for human life in the world. Struggle is closely related to effort and the activity by exerting the power, mind, or body to achieve a purpose. Life means a continual battle, one's success, failure, happiness, or unhappiness mostly depends upon one's knowledge of this battle. Some people try to make their life useful for each other and getting happiness from the environment. In order to understand this struggle, one must see that there are three sides to it: struggle with oneself, struggle with other, and struggle with circumstances. One person may be capable of struggling with herself, but that is not sufficient. Another is able to struggle with others, but even that is not sufficient. A third person may answer the demands of circumstance, but this is not enough either; what is needed is that all three should be studied and learnt, and one must be able to manage the struggle in all three directions.

The one who struggle with herself first is the wisest, for once she has struggled with herself, which is the most difficult struggle, the other struggles will

become easy for her. The point is to meet one's condition with understanding and with complete resignation. Thus the first thing is to meet the condition as it is and the second is to better the condition. Life is a struggle and we must be ready to struggle.

*P.S. I Love You* novel tells about Holly Kennedy who is beautiful, smart, and kind person. She is married with Gerry who she loves of her life – a passionate, funny and impetuous Irishman. Gerry is a patient person to confront his wife, because his wife wants many things to Gerry, such as a big apartment for them. Gerry's severe headache in his head is diagnosed as brain cancer illness, it takes the life out of Holly. Gerry is the only one who care about her wife, Holly. So that, before he died, Gerry planned to write a series of 10 letters that will guide her not only through her grief but in rediscovering herself. Gerry's planning make Holly's mother and best friends, Denise and Sharon begin worry. They are worried if Holly tied to the past, and she cannot move on from the past. In fact, from 10 letters from Gerry, each letter is pushing her to take a new future, making her stronger and helping her to make a good life. Each of the letters come in every month during in ten months.

Because of those reason above, the researcher encourages to conduct entitled **“HOLLY’S STRUGGLE FOR A BETTER LIFE AN INDIVIDUAL PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDY ON AHERN’S NOVEL *P.S. I LOVE YOU* (2004)”**

## **B. Literature Review**

Cecelia Ahern is an interesting novelist. As long as the writer knows, there has been other reseacher who conducted a research on the novel. The first study, Sabihisma Arsyi (2010) discussed “Negative Thinking Leads

Someone to Become Lonely and Depressed as Reflected in the Main Character”.

Second study, Gatingsih (2015) discussed “Being Rational reflected Cecelia Ahern *P.S I Love You*” using An Individual Psychological Approach. In her study, There are three reasons why the researcher is interested in studying this novel. The researcher is interested in studying this novel firstly because it is a realistic novel. The author does not use a difficult words and language so easy to understand. The second, *P.S. I Love You* shows a good moral message that the person must be rational to cope with problem and find the way to be a strong woman and also try to be a brave woman. The third, the novel is one of a popular novel in the Ireland. Thus, the novel was adapted into movie in 2007.

Third study, Tina Setyanti (2010) discussed “Compliments in the novel entitled *P.S I Love You*”. In her study, there are 4 types of topic of compliments are found in this novel. They are personal appearance, possession, general ability, and specific-act ability. Topic of personal appearance is used in 5 data; topic of possession is used in 6 data. Compliments on general ability are found in 8 data and topic of specific act ability is used in 3 data. It is found that the characters perform the compliments expression in various ways. From the politeness strategy, there are three politeness principle strategy found in the compliments expression: Tact Maxim, Approbation Maxim and Generosity Maxim.

### **C. Problem Statement**

The problem statements of this research are:

1. What is the main problem of Holly's life?
2. What are the Holly's struggles to make a better life?

### **D. Limitation of the Study**

The writer focuses this research in analyzing the main problem of Holly's life and her struggle to make a better life reflected in Ahern's novel *P.S. I Love You (2004)* by using individual psychological approach.

### **E. Objectives of the Study**

The objectives of the study are mentioned as follows:

1. To analyze the main problem of Holly's life
2. To reveal the Holly's struggle to make a better life reflected in Ahern's novel *P.S. I Love You (2004)* by using individual psychological approach

### **F. Benefit of the Study**

The study is expected to give benefits as follows:

#### **1. Theoretical Benefit**

The writer wishes this study can impart a new contribution and information to the larger body of knowledge, especially the literary study on *P.S. I Love You* novel (2004).

## **2. Practical Benefit**

This study is wished to give deeper understanding and enrich both knowledge and experience especially for the writer, generally for other students of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta and also can be used as reference by other university students who are interested in literary study on *P.S. I Love You* novel (2004) based on individual psychological perspective.

## **G. Research Method**

In this research, the writer analyzes Cecelia Ahern's novel *P.S. I Love You* (2004). There are five elements that should be taken into account in this research, they are:

### **1. Type of Research**

In writing this study, the writer employs the descriptive qualitative research. Moloeng (1983: 3) affirms that qualitative research is research which result in the descriptive data in the form observed people or behaviors. Then, the steps of conducting this qualitative study are (1) determining the object of the study, (2) determining the source of the data, (3) determining the method of data collection, and (4) determining the technique of data analysis.

### **2. Object of The Study**

The object of the study is *P.S. I Love You* written by Cecelia Ahern and published on 2004. It is analyzes by using psychoanalysis perspective.

### 3. Type of the Data and Data Source

There are two types of data namely primary data and secondary data that are needed to do this research.

#### a. Primary Data

The primary data are the main data obtained from all the words, dialogues, phrases and sentences in the novel. The primary data source of the study is *P.S. I Love You* by Cecelia Ahern.

#### b. Secondary Data

Secondary data are the supporting data taken from literary books, criticism, and some articles related to the novel. The secondary data of the study are taken from any information related to the novel.

### 4. Technique of the Data Collection

In conducting the study, the writer uses the techniques in collecting the data as follows:

- a. Reading the data repeatedly
- b. Taking notes of important part in both primary and secondary data
- c. Underlying the important words, phrases and sentences which are related to the study.
- d. Arranging the data into several part based on its classification
- e. Selecting the data by rejecting the irrelevant information which does not support the topic of the study
- f. Drawing the conclusion of the analysis that has already done in the former chapter and formulating its pedagogical suggestion.

## **5. Technique of the Data Analysis**

In analyzing the data, the writer employs descriptive qualitative analysis of content. The steps of the technique of the data analysis are compiled as follows:

1. Analyzing the psychological elements of the novel. Focus will be paid on the individual psychological analysis of the novel
2. Trying to decide the individual psychological of the literary work.  
Focus will be paid on the main problem of Holly's life and her struggle to make a better life
3. Making discussion of the finding
4. Making conclusion

## **H. Paper Organization**

The organization of this study is explained in order the reader can understand the content of the paper easier. The organizations are as follows: Chapter I is introduction, which contains background of the study, literary review, problem statements, objectives of the study, limitation of the study, the benefit of the study, research method, and paper organization. Chapter II is underlying theory; it describes the notion of individual psychological approach, the notion of struggle, structural elements of the novel and theoretical application. Chapter III is social background of English society in nineteenth century which covers social aspect, political aspect, economy aspect, science and technology aspect, cultural aspect and religious aspect. Chapter IV is individual psychological analysis; it covers (1) the psychological elements of

*P.S. I Love You* novel, (2) discussion. Chapter V is the last chapter of this research paper of this research that consists of conclusion and suggestion.